

The Poplar Post



Loyalty  Beauty  Merit  Comradeship

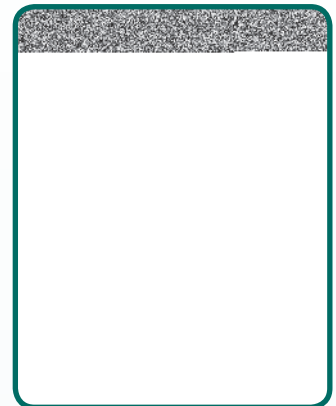
To Our Newest Angels,

Welcome to Lake Bryn Mawr Camp! We couldn't be happier that you're going to be a part of Summer 2007 at Bryn Mawr. We hope you'll come to love Bryn Mawr as a second home, the way generations of Bryn Mawr Angels have since camp opened in 1921. Whether you've been to sleepaway camp before, or are spending the summer away from home for the first time, whether you're the latest in a long line of LBMC campers, or the first in your family to go to camp, whether you're from Freehold or Florida, we bet you're

as excited for the summer as we are—maybe even more! We also know that you have lots of questions about what camp is going to be like. We hope this special edition of our camp newsletter answers some of your questions.

We can't wait for you to get to camp in June. We are ready for you to be a part of our summer family!

Love,
Jane and Dan



June 23, 2007: Your First Day at Bryn Mawr!

So—you've seen the pictures, you've written back to your pen pal, you've packed your trunks... all that remains is to get on the bus and go! Simple enough, right? But, if this is your first time going to sleepaway camp (and even if it isn't), you probably have lots of questions about what's going to happen when you get to camp. We can't answer all of your questions here, but we can give you an idea of what to expect the first day!

Imagine it's the first day of camp. You wake up early, excited and maybe a little anxious about the adventure you're starting on...

That morning your mom or dad will bring you to the bus. You and the other campers from your area will be met by several Bryn Mawr staff members. Bunk One girls will also be on hand to help. Look for them in their yellow "Bus Helpers" shirts. When you say goodbye to your parents and get on the bus, you might feel scared or nervous. If you do, it's a good idea to talk to one of the bus counselors and tell them how you feel.

The ride to camp takes about two hours, depending on where you live. The girls on the bus will be very noisy and excited, especially as you get closer to camp. The bus ride is a good time to meet other new campers and get your first taste of what it's like to be a Bryn Mawr camper.

When you arrive at camp, a group leader or director will meet you at the bus and give you your bunk assignment. There will be lots of campers running around and greeting their friends. It might be a little overwhelming at first! Just look for the sign with your bunk number on it. Your counselor and the other girls in your bunk will meet you near the buses. When everyone in your bunk arrives, you will all go to the cabin together.

When you get to your bunk, your trunks will already have been unpacked and your bed made for you! You can put away anything you brought with you on the bus and look around your summer home. Your counselors will introduce you to your bunkmates and you will have some time to get to know each other. Depending on your bunk, there will be some campers who are new and some who are returning.

The dinner bugle will blow over the loudspeaker. (We use bugle calls at camp to tell us when to wake up, go to activities and report to meals.) Your counselors will lead your bunk to dinner line-up at the flagpole. We will lower the flag and bunks will be called into the Dining Hall one by one.

In the dining hall you will sit at an assigned table with your bunk. When your table is called, you will go to the window to get your meal. (Did we mention that the food at Bryn Mawr is great?) A lot of important announcements are made during mealtimes, so it's important to listen up, so you don't miss anything.

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After dinner, the whole camp will gather for evening activity. The directors, program heads and group leaders will perform skits to introduce themselves. (Sometimes, this is the best show of the summer!) Bunk One will be introduced, and we will go over camp rules and traditions. At the end of the activity, Bunk One will lead camp in

the singing of the Alma Mater. You will be excused by bunk to get a bedtime snack and return to your cabin.

At bedtime, you and your bunkmates will brush your teeth and put on your pajamas, before climbing into your bunks. Taps will play over the loudspeaker, and if you ask them nicely, your counselors may even

tell you a bedtime story. When the lights go out, you might feel too excited to sleep, but try to get your rest—camp is in full swing the next morning and you want to be at your best!

Congratulations! You made it through your first day at Bryn Mawr!

Camper & Parent Tips

Camper & Parent Tip #1

You will write lots of letters this summer! It's a good idea to print out address labels for the people you'll be writing most frequently (Mom, Dad, grandparents, your best friend). That way all you have to do to address the envelope is peel and stick! (Mom and Dad, cool stationery makes it more fun to write home... and don't be surprised when unfamiliar stationery shows up in your mailbox. Lots of campers love to trade with their friends!)

Camper & Parent Tip #2

Label everything—we mean everything! You already know you need to put your name in all your clothes (including socks and underwear). But don't forget about flashlights, softball gloves, riding pants, soccer cleats, lacrosse sticks, books, bedding, clipboards... Stuff gets left around camp all the time and when your name's on it, you know it'll get back to you. (Be sure to put your name on your tennis racquet, not just the cover. We'll leave the cover in your duffel when we unpack your bags.)

Camper & Parent Tip #3

Be sure to take precautions with liquids when you're packing your duffels! Although Camp Trucking is very careful with your baggage, every year we open one or two trunks in which a bottle of shampoo or lotion has come open. What a mess! We strongly recommend you double-bag your shampoo and other toiletries in plastic ziploc bags. We know it's tempting to overpack shampoo and other toiletries, but please don't send too much! If you run out of

shampoo, conditioner, lotion or toothpaste, we can take care of that at camp. We don't send home leftover toiletries at the end of the summer

Camper & Parent Tip #4

Be sure to follow the packing list when getting ready for camp. There are a few things we won't unpack from your trunks (rugs, towels, tennis racquet covers, shower caddies, Crazy Creek chairs) simply because they aren't necessary at camp. It's not necessary to bring a sleeping bag in addition to bedding and blankets—we'll provide one for your campout. We do have special events at camp like that we like to get dressed up for. For example Red, White and Blue Day on July 4th (you will be put on a red, white or blue team), Gold Rush (we wear cowgirl stuff like bandanas and western wear) and of course Color War (you will be on a green or gold team)! If you have a question about an item you're considering bringing that isn't on the list, please feel free to call or e-mail and ask us!

Camper & Parent Tip #5

If you're into rollerblading, we hope you're planning on bringing your skates to camp! Just remember that if you're planning on doing any in-line skating this summer, you must bring your own safety equipment including elbow and knee pads, wrist guards and a helmet. We want to make sure you're well-protected!

Camper & Parent Tip #6

Every summer some campers bring valuables and jewelry to camp, and every summer something turns up missing.

Please don't bring valuables, expensive clothing, or nice jewelry to camp! It's so easy to lose or damage and we would feel terrible if you lost a favorite bracelet or expensive piece of electronics.

Camper & Parent Tip #7

When you're packing footwear for camp, keep in mind that you'll need a couple of pairs of shoes for different purposes. Most of the time you'll wear regular sneakers, but you'll also need a pair of tennis sneakers with flat soles to protect our courts, and you'll want to have a pair of old sneakers or other shoes you don't mind getting wet when it rains. And speaking of rain, please remember to pack a raincoat in addition to your Bryn Mawr windbreaker, because at camp, when it rains, it pours!

Camper & Parent Tip #8

It's a good idea to include two small mesh bags for socks and underwear. (Be sure to put your name on them!) You can send your socks and underwear to the laundry in these bags and that way you won't have to sort them out from everyone else's clean laundry.

Camper & Parent Tip #9

Independence Day is a very big deal at Bryn Mawr! This is one of the few days that we suspend our uniform policy. Be sure you come to camp with a red, white and blue outfit to wear for our 4th of July celebration!



What is a Peanut Mother?

Now that you're a Bryn Mawr camper, you're going to get used to hearing words like "comradeship" and "sisterhood" pretty often. That's because we believe in taking care of each other and creating a friendly, welcoming atmosphere for each camper. That's why we pair you up with a pen pal before camp, and that's why we continue the tradition of Peanut Families. The first week of camp, each senior camper (going into seventh, eighth or ninth grade) is given a special Bryn Mawr peanut. Inside the peanut shell is the name of a junior camper—her Peanut Daughter. Once a week we have special Peanut Time when Peanut Mothers and Peanut Daughters

meet. Last summer we had Peanut crafts night, when Peanut Mothers and Daughters worked together on special projects.

Your Peanut Mother can help you learn the words to camp songs, teach you about Bryn Mawr traditions, or just be a special friend. When you learn a new skill or accomplish something of which you are proud, your Peanut Mom will be happy to share in your excitement. If you are a senior, your Peanut Daughter will be someone who will share her enthusiasm with you, and look up to you as a role model. Peanut families are another way we try to make Bryn Mawr feel like a second home!



Before we go to bed each night at Bryn Mawr, the whole camp stands together and sings a special song called an alma mater. "Alma mater" comes from Latin words that mean "nourishing mother." We sing the alma mater to help us remember what a special place Bryn Mawr is and to honor the generations of Bryn Mawr angels who have come before. You can listen to the Bunk One girls from 2003 sing the Alma Mater on our website under the "Current Families LBMC Music Clips" section.

*There'll always be a Bryn Mawr
While there's a campus fair
Wherever there's a girl to play
Have fun without a care*

*There'll always be a Bryn Mawr
While there's a lake serene
Wherever there's a girl to play
On a team of gold or green*

*There'll always be a Bryn Mawr
Where there's a poplar tree
If Bryn Mawr means
as much to you
As Bryn Mawr means to me*

*Hearts leap up as we behold
Thy name across the sky
Setting stars as time unfolds
Thy name shall never die*

*'Long as Bryn Mawr is our camp
We'll honor and be true
Loyalty will be our goal
Lake Bryn Mawr to you
Oh Bryn Mawr*

*Hail to thee, our glorious camp
As the years go by
Yours to nurture every daughter
Ours to glorify*

What is Bunk One?

When you arrive at camp, you will be assigned to a cabin, or bunk, for the summer. The oldest girls on camp live in Bunk One. These girls have been at camp for three to nine years, and they know so much about Bryn Mawr. You will be able to recognize Bunk One girls by their special uniforms, enthusiasm for camp and great big smiles. Bunk One helps lead many of our camp

activities, including Talent Night, the Miss Firecracker contest, Color War, and the Alma Mater we sing each night. When you see them stand up on their chairs in the dining hall, it means you should get ready to show your camp spirit as they lead everyone in cheers from past Color Wars. (Don't worry if you don't know the words—if you ask a Bunk One girl she will be happy to teach you!) Your cabin will have a Bunk One "leadership" who will come to spend special time with you during the week. She can answer your questions about camp and help you learn the songs and cheers.



YOUR PEN PAL



There is so much to learn about being a Bryn Mawr camper that it can seem a little intimidating! We understand that, and that's why we've put you in touch with your very own pen pal—a returning camper who will be your resource for all things camp-related.

Your pen pal will give you the inside scoop on what life at Bryn Mawr is really like—campers, counselors, activities and traditions. She will be glad to answer any of your questions, so don't be afraid to ask! Your pen pal will write to you this month. If you have not heard from a pen pal, please contact the camp office.

The Angel Code

“The Angel Code” describes a set of values that are at the core of the Bryn Mawr experience. Each value corresponds to a letter in the camp initials: Loyalty, Beauty, Merit, and Comradeship. These four words will be an important part of your years at Bryn Mawr. In fact, we guarantee you will be able to recite this poem from memory by the end of the summer!

Loyalty means being true,
faith and honor in all we do.

Beauty is in more than skin,
beauty is found deep within.

Merit means working hard all day,
developing virtue along the way.

Comradeship is being a friend,
loving others 'til the end.

As Bryn Mawr angels, we'll uphold
these four values: **The Angel Code.**

